The Experimental Tannery.

161. **MR. REVATI NAL RAMA VARMA RAJA** (*Edavagai*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) how many years is it since the Experimental Tannery has been established ; and

(*b*) whether they are aware that tannery in India has passed the experimental stage ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The Experimental Tannery was established six years ago, *i. e.*, in Kumbhom 1099.

(*b*) The Government are not aware that the utilisation of all the available tanning materials has passed the experimental stage.

Appointment of an unqualified person as clerk in the office of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools.

162. **MR. REVATI NAL RAMA VARMA RAJA** (*Edavagai*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether a female clerk who does not possess the minimum qualification prescribed in the Travancore Service Regulations has been appointed lately in the office of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools ;

(*b*) if so, the date of appointment ; and

(*c*) who was responsible for the appointment ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) and (*c*) These do not arise in view of answer to part (*a*).

Payment of Kudivila by the Forest Department.

163. **MR. D. C. JOSEPH** (*Agastisvaram*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether adequate steps are taken by the Forest Department to pay *kudivila* to the claimants from South Travancore ;

(*b*) if so, how is it that *kudivila* is not paid in the very year in which it is due ; and

(*c*) whether a suit is pending against them in the District Court of Nagercoil for the payment of *kudivila* to Mr. Thiruvambalam Pillai, retired Engineer ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) *Kudivila* becomes due only after the disposal of the logs concerned and claims thereto are investigated and settled for payment, on the claimants' producing the necessary records to substantiate their claims.

(*c*) The Government are not aware of any such suit against them.

Smuggling of timber from the Ashambu Reserve.

164. **MR. D. C. JOSEPH** (*Agastisvaram*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken to stop smuggling of timber from the Ashambu Reserve into the British territory ?

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MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Yes. There is a staff of one Forester, 4 guards and 2 watchers to protect the frontier forests, and, as a result, smuggling has largely decreased.

Report of the Committee on Royalties.

165. MR. D. C. JOSEPH (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) whether they have approved of the report of the Forest Committee on Royalties; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether the Forest Department is following the report?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The report of the Royalty Committee is under the consideration of Government.

(*b*) The question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Repair of bridges in Alleppey.

166. MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the public of Alleppey are suffering very much on account of the damaged condition of the bridges; and

(*b*) whether they have any intention of repairing the damaged bridges?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The Kothuvalchavady bridge and the Chungom bridge are in bad condition. The latter is under reconstruction and proposals for reconstructing the former are under consideration.

Increase of Crimes in Alleppey town.

167. MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Are the Government aware:

(*a*) that due to busy traffic and easy communication both by land and water, rowdies and thieves have been frequenting Alleppey in large numbers; and

(*b*) that murders and thefts have increased largely in the town of Alleppey?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Improvements in transport may have led to an increase in vagrant bad characters.

(*b*) There has been an increase in the number of murders and thefts.

Improvement of Agriculture in the Pattanapuram Taluk.

168. MR. H. B. MAHOMED ROWTHER (*Pattanapuram* cum *Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Director of Agriculture has visited the Pattanapuram taluk;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, whether his visits have tended to improve the agriculture of the place;

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